

Fax

From the Office of: West Virginia University Extension Service
Agricultural and Natural Resources

To: D.O.E.

From: R. Hanham

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Pages: 3, including cover sheet

e-mail:

Date: 11/5/07

☒ Urgent

☐ For Review

☐ Please Comment

☐ Please Reply

• Comments:

Agricultural Sciences Building
PO Box 6108
Morgantown, WV 26506-6108

November 4, 2007

Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability
OE-20
US Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue
Washington, DC 20585

To Whom It May Concern:

Re: Docket No. 2007-OE-01

I request a rehearing of the proposed Mid-Atlantic NIETC.

Hundreds of people, including me, went on record in public hearings conducted by DOE this past summer to say that they did not approve of the proposed Mid-Atlantic transmission corridor. I gave you detailed reasons why DOE's proposal (I read the *National Electric Transmission Congestion Study* cover to cover) was a bad one. Hundreds of other participants at the hearings gave you many other reasons why it was bad.

DOE apparently paid no attention. The proposal remained unchanged. You only paid lip-service to the voice of the people, and you appear to be more interested in catering to the wishes of utility corporations.

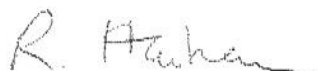
On June 20, 2007 the House of Representatives rejected an amendment by Rep. Hinchey (NY) to block the transmission corridors, which cover most of Pennsylvania and surrounding states. The corridors would allow utility companies to build transmission lines anywhere they wanted by using eminent domain to forcibly take the land they need to build them. State officials, our elected representatives and we, individual citizens, would have absolutely no say in this decision.

Hinchey's amendment was unfortunately defeated. Of Pennsylvania's nineteen representatives in Congress, thirteen did vote the wishes of its citizens and voted for the amendment. The other six Pennsylvania representatives, however, sided with the electric utility companies and voted against the amendment. They were Phil English (northwest PA), John Peterson (north-central PA), Bill Shuster (south-central PA), Mike Doyle (Pittsburgh), Charles Dent (Allentown) and Jason Altmire (northwest of Pittsburgh).

The average amount of money given to these six representatives by electric utility companies in the 2006 election cycle was \$35,816. The average amount of money given by electric utilities to the thirteen representatives who voted for the amendment was \$14,356. That's a difference of more than twenty thousand dollars. These are official, public-record data available from the opencrets.org website.

The word 'democracy' comes from two Greek words meaning 'people power'. It does not mean 'corporate power'.

Let's have a rehearing to show us which side DOE is on, the will of the corporation or the will of the people.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "R. Hanham". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Dr. Robert Hanham, PhD
157 Crees Road
Carmichaels, PA 15320